

## Message Text

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43

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /119 W

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R 131415Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4868

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOALSE

UNCLAS ANKARA 7016

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PLOS GR TU

SUBJECT: REACTION TO ICJ RULING

1. FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL TOLD REPORTERS SEPT 11 CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) RULING ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE TURKISH SEISMIC SHIP SISMİK THAT "WE SINCERELY WISH THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, GREECE WILL RAPIDLY START BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND ADOPT A CONSTRUCTIVE AND REALISTIC ATTITUDE FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

2. THE ICJ DECISION WAS A PAGE ONE ITEM IN MOST TURKISH PAPERS, AND FOR THE MOST PART WAS HANDLED AS STRAIGHTFORWARD NEWS REPORT OF THE DETAILS OF THE DECISION. SEPT 12 MASS CIRCULATION, GREEK-BAITING HURRIYET BY CONTRAST BANNER HEADLINED UNCLASSIFIED

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"GREECE SLAPPED IN THE FACE AT THE HAGUE." MILLIYET'S

MEHMET ALI BIRAND, IN A DISPATCH FROM THE HAGUE, REPORTED THAT "DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS" STATED THAT GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS HAD NOW ENTERED A "CRITICAL" PHASE IN WHICH THERE WAS A GREATER POSSIBILITY OF A CLASH IN THE EVENT OF FURTHER CRISES.

3. MILLIYET EDITOR ABDI IPEKCI ON SEPT 13 DISCUSSED THE "PRACTICAL RESULTS" OF THE ICJ DECISION, WHICH HE IDENTIFIED AS FREEDOM TO EXPLORE "AT EASE" IN THE AEGEAN AND THE "NULLIFICATION" OF THE GREEK ANTI-TURKISH PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. HOWEVER, IPEKCI CAUTIONED THAT THE DECISION DID NOT RESOLVE THE CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE AND CONSEQUENTLY TURKEY'S RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN HAVE NOT YET BEEN VERIFIED BY THE COURT. A SEPT 13 HURRIYET EDITORIAL REVIEWED THE COURT RULING, BUT NOTED THAT TURKEY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN BOUND BY THE DECISION IF IT HAD GONE AGAINST TURKEY SINCE GREECE HAD APPLIED UNILATERALLY TO THE COURT.  
FRANCIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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